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Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-12
AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05
FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /140 W
----------088466 140118Z /73
R 130849Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1940
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 15874

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: JA PLOS
SUBJECT: FONOFF COMMENTS ON SEABED MINING LEGISLATION

REF: STATE 240450; TOKYO 15608

1. FONOFF LOS OFFICE DIRECTOR KUME EXPRESSED GRATITUDE TO EMBOFF FOR TEXT OF AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF INTERIM SEABED MINING LEGISLATION, NOTING USG ACTIONS IN THIS FIELD WOULD GREATLY INFLUENCE JAPAN'S OWN COURSE.

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2. KUME EXPLAINED THAT BILL PRESENTLY BEFORE DIET TO ADJUST DOMESTIC LAWS IN SPECIFIC ACCORDANCE WITH JAPAN-ROK CONTINENTAL SHELF AGREEMENTS WAS ONLY LEGISLATION RELATED TO SEABED EXPLOITATION NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION BY GOJ. (TEXT OF JAPAN-ROK CONTINENTAL SHELF IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION BEING POUCHED TO DEPT.) KUME OBSERVED THAT THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN DEVELOPING

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LEGISLATION TO DEAL WITH BROADER ISSUES OF SEABED MINING ON PART OF VARIOUS LDP POLITICIANS, PRIMARILY THOSE ACTIVE IN DIET MARITIME LEAGUE. ACCORDING TO KUME, JAPANESE POLITICIANS' INTEREST WAS IN PART RESULT OF THEIR CONVERSATIONS WITH US CONGRESSIONAL ADVISORS DURING PAST LOS CONFERENCE SESSIONS. HE EXPECTED THAT SEABED MINING LEGISLATION WOULD BE MAJOR TOPIC OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN U.S. AND JAPANESE LEGISLATORS DURING NOVEMBER 21-22 MEETING OF US-JAPAN OCEAN FORUM IN TOKYO (REF B).

3. KUME STATED THAT CONCERNED GOJ MINISTRIES, HOWEVER, HAD NOT YET BEGUN TO DRAW UP EVEN TENTATIVE DRAFTS OF SUCH LEGISLATION, BUT RATHER WOULD WAIT TO SEE HOW NEXT LOS NEGOTIATING SESSION TURNED OUT AND WHAT ACTIONS OTHER MAJOR POWERS, NOTABLY US, WOULD TAKE. SHOULD OTHER STATES INTERESTED IN SEABED EXPLOITATION BEGIN TO TAKE UNILATERAL ACTION, KUME NOTED WITH SOME CHAGRINE, "JAPAN, AS IN THE CASE WITH 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONES, WOULD BE THE LAST IN LINE."
MANSFIELD

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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